

# Operation Iraqi Freedom: Greeting from a PA in Baghdad

*CPT Jonathan Boswell, Army PA, Baghdad*

Greetings from Baghdad! Army PA's and other health care professionals are taking great care of soldiers and civilians here, as well as some Iraqi citizens as well. Many PA's are serving as district administrators, with the job of reorganizing the local health care system. We are also glad to have some of our Reserve and National Guard counterparts with us, though many of them serve at great personal sacrifice.

We have made vast, vast improvements in our Aid Stations, with purchases of AED's and 12-lead EKG machines. That will be good news for MAJ Gary Aspera and his docs and PA's in the mighty 1st CAV--we'll be ready for you come spring! Our facilities, professional and personal, continually improve.

Additionally, we would like to thank you all for your prayers and concern for us. As your newspapers tell you daily, this is a dangerous place. Thankfully, no medical people have been killed or seriously injured up to now, to my knowledge; at least in Baghdad. But many other Americans and allies have been; and it's not over yet. Hopefully our leadership, with the firm backing of the American people, will be able to convince the Iraqis that democracy is the way to go. There is still a powerful criminal element loose out there, though; and there is still a military mission here. And if we don't do it--if we don't stabilize the Middle East--no one will.

And finally, I have heard rumors of a Christmas drive for us. That's great! And let me offer myself as the Point of Contact here for that fine initiative. I'm at [Jonathan.Boswell@us.army.mil](mailto:Jonathan.Boswell@us.army.mil), and I can give you names and addresses!



*CPT Boswell, PA in Baghdad, taking care of our soldiers*

